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Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 01780 040637Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 /093 W
----------113702 040655Z /14
R 030720Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2673
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD, MY
SUBJECT: MALAYSIAN MINISTER'S RESPONSE TO CONSUMER DECISION TO NEGOTIATE NATURAL RUBBER AGREEMENT

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 1586

1. GOM MINISTER OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES, DATUK AMAR TAIB MAHMUD HAS PRAISED CONSUMING COUNTRIES' DECISION TO PROCEED WITH NEGOTIATIONS OF A NATURAL RUBBER PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT IN UNCTAD. TAIB HAS BEEN QUOTED BY THE LOCAL PRESS AS SAYING "THE UNANIMOUS DECISION OF CONSUMING COUNTRIES TO ENTER INTO A NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE IS A CLEAR DEMONSTRATION OF THEIR RECOGNITION OF THE TANGIBLE, PRACTICAL BENEFITS WHICH WILL BE DERIVED BY BOTH THE DEVELOPED CONSUMING COUNTRIES AND THE DEVELOPING PRODUCING COUNTRIES ALIKE FROM THE STABILIZATION OF NATURAL RUBBER PRICES". TAIB ALSO COMMENTED THAT THIS MOVE AUGERS WELL FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF ACHIEVING OTHER COMMODITY AGREEMENTS IN THE FUTURE.

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2. COMMENT: AS PREDICTED IN REFTEL, THE GOM'S RESPONSE TO CONSUMING COUNTRIES DECIDING TO NEGOTIATE TOWARDS REACHING AN AGREEMENT IS MUCH MORE POSITIVE THAN DEPUTY MINISTER PAUL LEONG'S INITIAL RESPONSE. THE FOCUS NOW WILL BE ON THE ACTUAL U.S. ATTITUDE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE PROSPECTS FOR WHAT THE GOM WOULD CONSIDER AN ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT.
MILLER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: RUBBER, AGREEMENTS
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Draft Date: 03 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Litigation History:
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